

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
SAN JOSE DIVISION

Julian Briseno, et al.,

NO. C 08-00873 JW

Plaintiffs,

v.

Saratoga Pizza Corp., et al.,

Defendants.

**ORDER DENYING PLAINTIFFS'
REQUEST FOR A CONTINUANCE OF
THE PRELIMINARY PRETRIAL
CONFERENCE; VACATING THE
CONFERENCE WITH A PRELIMINARY
PRETRIAL ORDER**

This case is scheduled for a Preliminary Pretrial Conference on February 23, 2009. On February 17, 2009, Plaintiffs' counsel filed a request for a continuance of the conference on the ground that he is no longer able to locate his clients. (See Docket Item No. 16.) He seeks a 45 day delay so that he may locate the Plaintiffs. The Court declines to continue the conference on this ground because these dates are set to advance the cases and to clear the Court's docket of non-actionable claims.

Based on the Statement submitted by Defendants, the Court finds that a trial schedule can be set without the necessity of an appearance at this time. Accordingly, the Court sets the following trial schedule for this case. The parties shall adhere to this schedule and bring this case to a close. In the event that Plaintiffs' counsel wish to withdraw or to dismiss the case, he may do so in a timely manner as to avoid any prejudice to Defendants and sanctions by the Court.

TRIAL SCHEDULE

Sessions 1 & 3	November 3 - 5, 2009, 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.
Argue & Submit	November 6, 2009, 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Exhibits

1. On the day before the first day of trial, each party shall lodge with Chambers an exhibit binder for each witness, which shall contain all exhibits which the party contemplates offering into evidence through the witness. Any party objecting to an exhibit shall insert a page in front of the exhibit which identifies the party making the objection and the legal ground for the objection.

Although an exhibit to which an objection has been made may be shown to the witness, it shall not be displayed unless the objection is overruled and the exhibit is received into evidence.

2. If the case involves only a few exhibits, instead of witness exhibit binders, the parties may include all exhibits in a single notebook.

3. Unless otherwise ordered, all exhibits shall be in a format compatible with either the video or digital evidence presentation system utilized by the Court for display after it is received into evidence.

4. The parties are encouraged to stipulate to the admission into evidence of all exhibits. If the parties stipulate to admissibility, the parties shall indicate, "I am going to show you Exhibit ___, which is in evidence by stipulation." The exhibit may be shown to the witness without being formally offered into evidence.

5. The proffering party shall retain custody of all exhibits, schedules, summaries, diagrams or charts to be used at the trial.

Trial Procedure

6. Counsel must question witnesses from the podium, using the microphone. Without requesting permission, counsel may approach witnesses for any proper purposes.

7. Address all remarks to the Court, not to opposing counsel.

1 8. Refer to all persons, including witnesses, other counsel and the parties by their surnames
2 and not by their first or given names.

3 9. No demonstrative exhibits, charts, diagrams or enlargements shall be placed within sight
4 unless previously disclosed to opposing counsel.

5 10. In examining a witness, counsel shall not repeat or echo the answer given by the witness.

6 11. Counsel must stand when making an objection. When objections or responses to
7 objections are made, only the legal basis of the objections and responses may be stated.

8 12. Conferences at the bench or sidebar are not favored by the Court. Any sidebar
9 conferences which are allowed will be off the record. If any counsel wishes to place matters on the
10 record, he or she may so request, and the Court will make a responsive order.

11 13. Counsel have full responsibility to arrange for the appearance of witnesses during the
12 presentation of their case so as to eliminate delay caused by waiting for witnesses who have been
13 placed on call by counsel.

14 14. Unless an agreement to the contrary is entered into by opposing counsel, all nonparty or
15 nonexpert witnesses will be excluded from the courtroom when not testifying. When a witness has
16 completed his or her testimony, the witness is excused unless counsel indicates that he or she wishes
17 the witness to remain subject to being recalled. Any witness who has been excused from further
18 testimony may remain as a spectator. It will be the responsibility of counsel to make an
19 announcement at the time the witness steps down that he or she should remain in the environs of the
20 Court for a reasonable time to permit such counsel an opportunity to secure and serve a subpoena
21 upon the witness and assume responsibility for his or her per diem and other expenses as provided
22 by governing rule or statute.

23 15. Counsel shall admonish all persons at counsel table that gestures, facial expressions,
24 audible comments, or the like, as manifestations of approval or disapproval during the testimony of
25 witnesses, or at any other time, are prohibited.

1 16. Counsel should never ask the Court reporter to mark or flag a witness's answer to a
2 particular question. Instead, make a note of the time and subject matter of the testimony you want
3 marked, and inform the reporter unobtrusively at the next recess.

4 17. Witness examination shall consist of direct examination, cross-examination and re-direct
5 examination. No recross-examination will be allowed without prior approval of the Court
6 specifically indicating the area for recross-examination. When there are multiple defense counsel,
7 they are directed to confer and designate to the Court the sequence in which they wish to be
8 recognized during trial for purposes of presenting opening statements and conducting cross-
9 examination of witnesses. If one counsel conducts the direct examination of a witness, that same
10 counsel must make objections when the witness is cross-examined. Counsel who will conduct the
11 cross-examination should object while the witness is on direct.

12 18. From and after the moment the case is called for trial, any objection, motion or other
13 application for relief made by any defense counsel, orally or in writing, shall be deemed to be
14 adopted and joined in by every other defendant, without announcement by counsel to that effect, and
15 the rulings of the Court shall be deemed applicable to each defendant unless otherwise stated at the
16 time the ruling is made. Accordingly, it shall be regarded as unnecessary and improper for counsel
17 to rise to "join in" an objection or motion. Rather, counsel should rise to be heard only for the
18 purpose of expressly opting out of an objection or motion if that is his or her position.

19 19. Counsel are directed to deliver to opposing counsel at the end of each trial day (if not
20 earlier) a list of witnesses counsel anticipates calling the next trial day.

21 20. Counsel calling a non-client witness to testify should have no further discussions with
22 that witness concerning the case or any aspect of his or her testimony after the witness has been
23 tendered for cross-examination and until such time as the witness has been tendered back for redirect
24 examination. At all other times, within the bounds of governing ethics and the law, counsel may
25 engage in discussions with witnesses during trial.

26 21. Any time taken away from presentation of evidence to the Court, for example, lengthy
27 legal motions made during the time allocated to the presentation of evidence, or delays in the
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1 commencement of proceedings due to circumstances within the control of counsel, will be deducted
2 from the time allocated for the presentation of evidence. Upon timely application based upon good
3 cause, the Court may relieve a party of its stipulation to the agreed schedule.

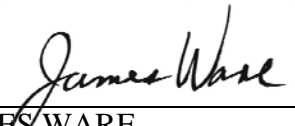
4 22. It is the practice of the Court periodically to inform counsel of the Court's record of how
5 much time each side has remaining for the presentation of evidence based upon the stipulated trial
6 schedule.

7 23. In an effort to assist the Court in its understanding of the evidence, after each witness
8 has been excused, counsel may request permission to address the Court for purposes of commenting
9 on the significance of the evidence. Commentary shall be limited to 5 minutes for each party.
10 Commentary shall be opened by the side calling the witness (unless waived) and closed by the side
11 cross-examining the witness. No rebuttal to commentary shall be allowed. Commentary must
12 conform to the rules of evidence with respect to closing argument. Time taken for commentary shall
13 be deducted from the time allocated to each side for the presentation of evidence.

14 **Daily Trial Transcript**

15 24. Any counsel desiring daily or expedited transcripts during trial should make immediate
16 arrangements with the court reporter and should inform the Court and other counsel of such
17 intentions.

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19 Dated: February 19, 2009



JAMES WARE
United States District Judge

1 **THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT COPIES OF THIS ORDER HAVE BEEN DELIVERED TO:**

2 Adam Wang waqw@sbcglobal.net
3 Richard S. Falcone rsf@paynefears.com

4 **Dated: February 19, 2009**

Richard W. Wieking, Clerk

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6 **By: /s/ JW Chambers**

Elizabeth Garcia
Courtroom Deputy